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HIGHLAND PARK

FLIGHT, FIGHT AT SANCTUARY

Gov. Phil Murphy talks with Yohanes Tasik, a 29-year resident of Avenel who for two weeks has been living at a Highland Park church. At left is Harry Pangemanan, who Thursday sought refuge at the church to avoid arrest. *Photos by Aristide Economopoulos, for The Star-Ledger*

Murphy rushes to church where Indonesian man sought refuge after two others were arrested

Sophie Nieto-Munoz *For The Star-Ledger*

Gov. Phil Murphy on Thursday rushed to a church that has provided sanctuary for immigrants after two Indonesians were arrested by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials and a third sought refuge in the church.

Gunawan Liem, of Franklin Park, and Roby Sanger, of Metuchen, were detained as they dropped their kids off at school Thursday morning, said the Rev. Seth Kaper-Dale of the Reformed Church of Highland Park.

At the church, which has been housing immigrants for years, the governor met with others who have taken up sanctuary there, including one who avoided detention by not answering his door.

"We obviously have to put our heads together and figure this out," Murphy told a crowd gathered at the church.

"It's not our country, it's not our values, it's not the country you came to to escape persecution," he later said.

Rep. Frank Pallone Jr., who was also at the church, said the Indonesians who were targeted had cooperated with federal officials since they came to the United States.

"They are valuable members of their community and there is absolutely no reason for ICE to prioritize their detainment," said Pallone (D-6th Dist.).

Kaper-Dale said everybody in the community is terrified of the U.S. immigration policy.

Pangemanan left Makassar, Indonesia, in 1993 to flee religious persecution, he said. He met his Indonesian wife in the U.S. and their two children were born in America.

"We can't believe ICE would make the choice to destroy communities in that way," he said. "We're here to highlight the injustice of the Donald Trump administration, which is the most horrific administration anyone could imagine."

Late Thursday, immigration officials confirmed the arrests.

"During a targeted enforcement operation today, ICE arrested two foreign nationals in Franklin Park and Metuchen," said ICE spokesman Emilio Dabul. "These individuals have an order of removal from the United States

SEE SANCTUARY, 6

WASHINGTON

Trump offers a path for Dreamers

Proposal could lead to citizenship for 1.8 million, includes $25 billion for wall

David Nakamura and Sean Sullivan
Washington Post

President Donald Trump is proposing a path to citizenship for an estimated 1.8 million young undocumented immigrants in exchange for hard-line steps to increase border security and curb legal immigration, a trade-off swiftly opposed by key Democrats.

Trump's support for "Dreamers" who have been in the country illegally since they were children represents a significant concession to Democrats and was intended as a compromise to help break the impasse over immigration in Congress, White House aides said Thursday.

The plan offers a citizenship path to more than twice as many Dreamers as were enrolled in a deferred action program Trump terminated in September, a move that is likely to engender fierce blowback among some conservatives, especially in the House.

But in a sign of how fraught chances of an immigration deal remain, the proposal was met with disdain from House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., as well as members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

SEE IMMIGRATION, 5

ISRAEL

Fossil could force rewrite of human history

Deborah Netburn *Los Angeles Times*

The story of how and when modern humans first left Africa may be more ancient and more complex than anyone knew.

This week, anthropologists excavating a collapsed cave in Israel described a Homo sapiens fossil fragment that has been dated to between 194,000 and 175,000 years ago.

It is the earliest known modern human fossil to be found outside Africa.

The discovery, detailed Thursday in the journal Science, provides the first physical evidence that Homo sapiens migrated out of the African continent tens of thousands of years earlier than previously thought.

"For more than 50 years most anthropologists thought modern humans left Africa around 100,000 years ago," said Israel

SEE FOSSIL, 5

POLITICS

Is America ready for another Chris Christie? Well, here he comes

Matt Arco *For The Star-Ledger*

Chris Christie has announced he's running for office! Really.

Except it's not that Chris Christie, New Jersey.

It's Chris Christie of Alabama, who wants to be that state's next attorney general. While both are lawyers, Alabama Chris Christie, unlike Jersey Chris Christie, is a Democrat.

"I've always had people giving me a hard time about the other Chris Christie," Alabama Chris Christie told NJ Advance Media by phone Thursday.

"But one of the things that I always tell them is, 'I'm the original Chris Christie,'" he said, noting that he's three years older than the Jersey version.

The Alabama Democrat's legal name is James Sturgeon Christie Jr.

His father, he explained, is a first-generation American from Scotland, where he said it's a tradition for the first-born male to have a nickname based on his last name.

Just like his father, he's always been called "Chris Christie." Unless, of course, he signs a legal document.

(Jersey Chris Christie's middle name is James, Alabama Chris Christie's legal first name.)

What's more, Alabama Chris Christie says he's actually talked to Jersey Chris Christie. It was 20 or 25 years ago.

"I called him to get his direct line," he said. The Alabamian explained that people would call him thinking he was Jersey Chris Christie, and he wanted to give them the right phone number. "I literally had a Post-it note on my desk with his number," he said.

Matt Arco, NJ Advance Media, marco@njadvancemedia.com

Chris Christie of Alabama is running as a Democrat to be that state's next attorney general.

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